

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated February 4, 2009. Claims 1, 4, 11, 14, 21, 24 and 31 to 33 are pending in the application, of which Claims 1, 11 and 21 are independent. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 4, 11, 14, 21, 24 and 31 to 33 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 7,061,632 (Livingston) in view of U.S. Patent No. 7,159,190 (Perry). Claims 3, 13 and 23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Livingston in view of Perry, and in further view of WO 2002/82362/U.S. Published Appln. No. 2004/0187087 (Petz). Reconsideration and withdrawal of these rejections are respectfully requested.

The present invention concerns setting the conditions for color printing in a document. In one aspect of the invention, a color mode to be applied to pages contained in the document data can be defined using an entire color mode, a chapter color mode and a page color mode. When all three color modes are selected and print data is generated, the page color mode is applied to a selected page, the chapter color mode is applied to a selected chapter and the entire color mode is applied to the remainder of the document.

Turning to specific claim language, amended independent Claim 1 is directed to an information processing apparatus which includes a first display unit configured to display a first setting screen to set an entire color mode defining a color mode to be applied to the entire document data; a second display unit configured to display a second setting screen to set a chapter color mode defining the color mode to be applied to a selected chapter including a plurality of pages of the document data, wherein the second setting screen is different from the first setting screen; a third display unit configured to display a third setting screen to set a page

color mode defining the color mode to be applied to a selected page of the document data, wherein the third setting screen is different from the first setting screen and the second setting screen; and a print data generating unit configured to generate print data so that a printer prints a printed material on which the color mode defined by the page color mode is applied to the selected page and the color mode defined by the chapter color mode is applied to the selected chapter unit and the color mode defined by the entire color mode is applied to the remaining portion of the document data to which the page color mode and the chapter color mode are not applied when the entire color mode is set in accordance with an instruction received via the first setting screen displayed by said first display unit and the chapter color mode is set in accordance with an instruction received via the second setting screen displayed by said second display unit and the page color mode is set in accordance with an instruction received via the third setting screen displayed by said third display unit.

Applicant respectfully submits that the cited references, namely Livingston, Perry and Petz, considered either alone or in combination, fail to disclose or suggest all of the features of the apparatus of Claim 1. In particular, the cited references, either alone or in combination, fail to disclose or suggest at least the features of a first display unit configured to display a first setting screen to set an entire color mode defining a color mode to be applied to the entire document data, a second display unit configured to display a second setting screen to set a chapter color mode defining the color mode to be applied to a selected chapter including a plurality of pages of the document data, wherein the second setting screen is different from the first setting screen and a third display unit configured to display a third setting screen to set a page color mode defining the color mode to be applied to a selected page of the document data,

wherein the third setting screen is different from the first setting screen and the second setting screen.

In contrast to the present invention, Livingston discloses that a data structure for a page includes a single variable representing the possible features associated with each page, such as a watermark feature. (See Livingston, Column 9, Lines 12 to 16). As such, a page of Livingston can only have one variable value for a feature. Therefore, while Livingston may disclose that, when a user selects a feature for a first set of pages (for example, whole pages), and then goes on to select a different feature for a second set of pages (for example, even pages) contained in the first set, the second set of pages will have the setting of both features. Therefore, Livingston cannot possibly disclose or suggest having three color modes, as set by the first display unit, second display unit and the third display unit of Claim 1.

Furthermore, Perry discloses setting a color mode to be applied to a selected page; however, as described on page 5 of the Office Action, neither Livingston nor Perry discloses a “chapter including a plurality of pages.” Therefore, Livingston as modified by Perry cannot possibly disclose or suggest a second display unit configured to display a second setting screen to set a chapter color mode defining the color mode to be applied to a selected chapter including a plurality of pages of the document data, wherein the second setting screen is different from the first setting screen.

In addition, Applicant has reviewed Petz and submit that nothing in Petz cures the deficiencies in Livingston and Perry. Petz discloses a “chapter including a plurality of pages” as shown in Fig. 6a. However, there is no disclosure or suggestion of either a second display unit configured to display a second setting screen to set a chapter color mode defining the color mode to be applied to a selected chapter including a plurality of pages of the document data, wherein

the second setting screen is different from the first setting screen or a third display step of displaying a third setting screen to set a page color mode defining the color mode to be applied to a selected page of the document data, wherein the third setting screen is different from the first setting screen and the second setting screen.

In light of these deficiencies in Livingston, Perry and Petz, Applicant submits that Claim 1 is now in condition for allowance and respectfully requests same.

Amended independent Claims 11 and 21 are directed to a print data generating method and a computer-readable medium, respectively, substantially in accordance with the apparatus of Claim 1. Accordingly, Applicant submits that Claims 11 and 21 are also now in condition for allowance and respectfully requests same.

The other pending claims in this application are each dependent from the independent claims discussed above and are therefore believed allowable for at least the same reasons. Because each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual consideration of each dependent claim on its own merits is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the entire application is believed to be in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

CONCLUSION

No claim fees are believed due; however, should it be determined that additional claim fees are required, the Director is hereby authorized to charge such fees to Deposit Account 06-1205.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, CA office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

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